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DRC-01 /170 W

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R 240954Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7106

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 5 SAIGON 9750

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJ: VIET-NAM WEEKLY CEASEFIRE ASSESSMENT, JULY 17-23, 1974

PART I -- SUMMARY

1. IN MR-1 THE NUMBER OF CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS REACHED A 1974 HIGH THIS WEEK, AS DID THE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES. LITTLE SIGNIFICANT ACTION OCCURED NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS. IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE, WHICH EXPERIENCED ITS MOST ACTIVE WEEK SINCE THE CEASE-FIRE, THE ENEMY'S MAJOR ATTACK CAME ON JULY 17 IN DUC DUC DISTRICT AGAINST AN ARVN AND A RANGER BATTALION. THE ARVN 3RD DIVISION LAUNCHED A COUNTERATTACK JULY 18, AND FIGHTING CONTINUES. A ROCKET ATTACK ON DA NANG AIRBASE KILLED 16, AND DESTROYED 10 BUILDINGS AND AN ICCS HELICOPTER. INCIDENTS IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE WERE AT THEIR LOWEST LEVEL SINCE APRIL. ACTIVITY IN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE, DIRECTED ALMOST ENTIRELY AGAINST TERRITORIAL FORCES, REACHED A THREE-MONTH HIGH. THE NUMBER AND INTENSITY OF INCIDENTS WAS ALSO UP IN MR-2, AND WAS REFLECTED IN HIGHER CASUALTIES. FIGHTING WAS ESPECIALLY HEAVY IN PLEIKU AND KONTUM PROVINCES, WHERE NEARLY EVERY ARVN INFANTRY AND ARTILLERY UNIT RECEIVED INDIRECT FIRE. NOTEWORTHY ALSO WAS THE HIGH INCIDENCE OF ATTACKS AGAINST LOC'S IN PLEIKU, BINH DINH, AND PHU YEN AND ATTACKS AGAINST MAJOR INSTALLATIONS ALONG THE NORTHERN COAST. THESE INCLUDED THREE SEPARATE ATTACKS ON CAM RANH PENINSULA AND TWO ROCKET ATTACKS ON NHA TRANG. IN DARLAC PROVINCE THE 45TH REGIMENT'S OPERATION INTO ENEMY BASE AREA 238 WAS CLOSED OUT, LAVING 92 ENEMY DEAD AND 39 WEAPONS CAPTURED. IN MR-3 THERE WAS A LULL FOLLOWING THE BEN CAT HIGHPOINT, AND THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS DROPPED SLIGHTLY. GVN CASUALTIES WERE ON A PAR WITH A WEEK AGO, WHILE ENEMY CASUALTIES WERE HIGHER. THERE WAS AN ABSENCE OF LARGE UNIT FIGHTING, WITH MOST INCIDENTS IN BEN CAT DISTRICT. ASSASSINATIONS APPEARED ON THE RISE, WITH SIX KILLED AND EIGHT WOUNDED IN ASSASSINATION ACTIONS. IN MR-4, THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS WAS UP. THIS TREND WAS REFLECTED IN INCREASED CASUALTIES, WITH GVN CASUALTIES UP SHARPLY. ACTION WAS MODERATE IN THE NORTHERN DELTA AND GENERALLY LIGHT IN THE CENTRAL DELTA. THE MOST CONFIDENTIAL

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INTENSE FIGHTING WAS IN KIEN GIANG, WHERE SIX VILLAGE HEADQUARTERS HAVE BEEN OVER-RUN SINCE JULY 14 AND ONLY ONE OF THEM RETAKEN. ACTIVITY IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE INCREASED GREATLY, WHILE NEIGHBOING CHUONG THIEN REMAINED ACTIVE. ASSAULTS-BY-FIRE AND HARASSMENTS INCREASED IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE AND IN AN XUYEN NEARLY ALL ENEMY INITIATED INCIDENTS WERE ABF. IN BA XUYEN, 30 RF, DESPITE HEAVY CASUALTIES, SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED THE REAR BASE OF THE 482ND RF BATTALION AGAINST AN ATTACK BY THE VC PHU LOI 3RD BATTALION.

THE ICCS CONTINUED TO DEVOTE A LARGE PART OF ITS DECISION-MAKING ENERGIES TO ITS FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES, PARTICULARLY THE GROWING DEBTS OWED TO THE DELEGATIONS. THE DRV/PRG BOYCOTT OF THE FPJMT AND TPJMC CONTINUED. THE GROUP OF YOUNG AMERICANS TRAVELING AROUND THE WORLD TO PUBLICIZE THE MIA ISSUE CALLED ON THE US, GVN AND PRG DELEGATIONS TO THE FPJMT. THE DRV DELEGATION REFUSED TO SEE THE GROUP. HANOI'S PROPAGANDA MACHINERY CONTINUED ITS SCURRILOUS EFFORTS TO INFLUENCE CONGRESSIONAL OPINION AGAINST CONTINUED U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE RVN. THE COMMUNISTS EXULTED IN THEIR RECENT ATTACKS BY FIRE ON DA NANG AND NHA TRNAG AND AT THE SAME TIME DENOUNCED AS "SLANDEROUS TRICKS" GVN CONDEMNATIONS OF THESE ATTACKS.

PART II -- FPJMT, TPJMC AND RELATED MATTERS

2. THE DRV/PRG BOYCOTT OF THE FPJMT AND TPJMC MEETINGS CONTINUED FOR THE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE WEEK. THE GROUP OF YOUNG AMERICANS TRAVELING AROUND THE WORLD TO PUBLICIZE THE MIA ISSUE CALLED ON THE US, GVN AND PRG DELEGATIONS TO THE FPJMT. IN THEIR MEETINGS WITH THE GVN AND US DELEGATIONS, THE GROUP RECEIVED THOROUGH BRIEFINGS ON THE FPJMT AND COMMUNIST EFFORTS TO SABOTAGE ITS HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS. THE PRG GAVE THE GROUP ITS STANDARD LINE ON THE NECESSITY OF RESOLVING THE P&I QUESTION AND DEFINING MODALITIES BEFORE MEETINGS CAN RESUME AND CASUALTY RESOLUTION CAN BEGIN. THE GROUP WAS UNSUCCESSFUL IN ITS EFFORTS TO MEET WITH THE DRV DELEGATION. ALTHOUGH THE DRV EMBASSY IN PARIS HAD REFERRED THE GROUP'S QUESTIONS ON THE FPJMT TO ITS SAIGON DELEGATION, THE GROUP WAS TOLD THAT THE DRV DELEGATION SAW NO NEED TO MEET WITH THEM SINCE THEIR QUESTIONS WERE ANSWERED IN PARIS. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE INCONSISTENT STATEMENTS WAS NOT LOST ON THE YOUNG PEOPLE.

PART III -- COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT

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3. VIET CONG ON "GRAVE SITUATION" IN SOUTH VIET-NAM. IN A STATEMENT APPARENTLY DESIGNED TO COINCIDE WITH THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GENEVA ACCORDS, THE "PRG" FOREIGN MINISTRY ACCUSED THE US OF "DISREGARDING THE PROTEST OF PROGRESSIVE AMERICANS AND MANY U.S. CONGRESSMEN" BY CONTINUING MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE GVN. "ESPECIALLY GRAVE," ACCORDING TO THE STATEMENT, IS THE FACT THAT THE US CONSIDERS THE PARIS AGREEMENT "A NEW POLITICAL AND LEGAL BASIS FOR A LONG COMMITMENT" TO THE GVN. THE STATEMENT REPEATS FAMILIAR CHARGES OF US VIOLATIONS (INCLUDING THE ALLEGATION THAT US PILOTS ARE FLYING F-5E AIRCRAFT IN COMBAT) AND CLAIMS THAT THE US IS USING ITS "SO-CALLED CONCERN OVER DEAD OR MISSING AMERICANS" TO MISLEAD PUBLIC OPINION AND TO CONCEAL THESE "VIOLATIONS". GVN EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A REAL CEASE-FIRE AND TO GET NEGOTIATIONS BACK ON TRACK ARE DIS-

MISSED AS "TRICKY AND RIDICULOUS MOVES" ALSO DESIGNED TO "DECEIVE PUBLIC OPINION".

4. CONTRADICTORY COMMUNIST STATEMENTS ON RECENT ATTACKS. IN A RATHER CURIOUS PROPAGANDA EXERCISE THE COMMUNISTS HAVE EXULTED IN THE RECENT INDIRECT FIRE ATTACKS ON DA NANG AND NHA TRANG ONLY TO DENOUNCE, IN THE NEXT BREATH, GVN CONDEMNATIONS OF THESE ATTACKS ON HEAVILY POPULATED AREAS AS "SLANDEROUS TRICKS". LIBERATION RADIO CROWD ABOUT THE DA NANG ROCKET BARRAGE IN A JULY 19 BROADCAST WITHOUT MENTIONING, OF COURSE, THAT A NUMBER OF NONCOMBATANTS DIED IN THE ATTACK. THE FACT THAT COMMUNIST ORDNANCE IMPACTED IN A NHA TRANG RESIDENTIAL AREA WAS CONVENIENTLY IGNORED BY HANOIRADIO IN ITS REPORT OF RECENT ATTACKS AGAINST GVN BASES AND DEPOTS IN THE AREA. ON JULY 23 THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN OF THE SO-CALLED "PRG" CHARACTERIZED GVN PROTESTS OF THESE ATTACKS AS EFFORTS TO "WEAKEN THE PRESTIGE AND ROLE OF THE PLAF--AN ARMY WHICH COMES FROM THE PEOPLE AND SERVES THE PEOPLE". THE SPOKESMAN WENT ON TO CHARGE THAT "THIS PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE MANEUVER"FORESHADOWS "NEW CRIMINAL ACTS" ON THE PART OF THE GVN.

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
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PART IV -- MR-1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

A. OVERALL SECURITY: THE VC MR3 HIGHPOINT WHICH BEGAN JULY 13 CONTINUED, WITH BA XUYEN, CHUONG THIEN AND KIEN GIANG PROVINCES PARTICULARLY ACTIVE. IN KIEN GIANG ALONE, SIX VILLAGE HEADQUARTERS HAVE BEEN OVERRUN (ONE SINCE RETAKEN) SINCE JULY 14. ALTHOUGH DAILY DELTA-WIDE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY HAS DECREASED THROUGHOUT THE WEEK, IT REMAINS ABOVE NORMAL. CORPS REPORTS 572 VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS THIS WEEK (469 LAST WEEK), INCLUDING 73 GROUND ATTACKS (69), 353 ABF (312), 127 HARASSMENTS (77), 7 SABOTAGE (5), 10 TERRORIST INCIDENTS (6), AND TWO MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENTS. GVN LOSSES WERE EXTREMELY HIGH WITH 318 KIA (210),

927 WIA (887), 324 MIA (110) AND 25 CREW-SERVED (ONE) AND 839 INDIVIDUAL (152) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 667 VC/NVA KIA (535), 77 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (48), AND 30 CREW-SERVED (16) AND 176 INDIVIDUAL (159) WEAPONS SEIZED.

B. NORTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE NORTHERN DELTA WAS MODERATE. IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE, THE HOA LAC VILLAGE CHIEF (GIAO DUC DISTRICT) AND A HAMLET CHIEF FROM CHAU THANH DISTRICT WERE ASSASSINATED. A MILITARY TRUCK HIT A MINE ON ROUTE 216 IN CAI BE (D) CAUSING FOUR ARVN WIA. ANOTHER MINE WAS DISCOVERED

IN THE SAME AREA FOUR DAYS LATER. (ROUTE 216 RUNS FROM HIGHWAY 4 INTO TRI PHAP VILLAGE.) A CIVILIAN BUS RECEIVED SMALL ARMS FIRE ON HIGHWAY 4 IN SAM GIANG (D) RESULTING IN TWO CIVILIANS KILLED, FIVE WOUNDED, AND ONE MISSING. IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE, THE ONLY GROUND ATTACK WAS AGAINST THE OUTPOST IN CAY ME (H), TAN THANH (V), HONG NGU (D). SIX PF WERE KILLED AND ONE WOUNDED. OPERATING IN THE SAME HAMLET, A GVN FORCE CONSISTING OF 2ND TROOP/2ND ARMORED SQUADRON, 498TH RF BATTALION AND THE RECON COMPANY OF THE 14TH INFANTRY REGIMENT REPORTEDLY KILLED 50 VC/NVA AND CAPTURED 9 CREW-SERVED AND 20 INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS WHILE SUFFERING TWO KIA AND EIGHT WIA. THE VC/NVA UNIT INVOLVED WAS BELIEVED TO BE THE D-3 BATTALION/NVA 207TH REGIMENT. IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE, THE D-1 AND D-2 BATTALIONS/Z-15

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REGIMENT AND 504 LF BATTALION HAVE EXPANDED THEIR AREA OF CONTROL ALONG THE KINH CUNG CANAL IN NHON NINH (V), KIEN BINH (D) BY DRIVING OUT THE KIEN BINH 858 MOBILE RF COMPANY AND THE TWO PF PLATOONS DEFENDING NHON NINH II AND KINH BUI MOI OUTPOSTS. IN CHAU DOC PROVINCE, INCREASED VC/NVA PRESSURE IN THE PANHANDLE AREA OF TINH BIEN (D) LEADS THE S-2 TO BELIEVE VC/NVA ARE TRYING TO OPEN A NEW INFILTRATION ROUTE. THE ROUTE REPORTEDLY RUNS FROM CAMBODIA THROUGH TINH BIEN TO A TRAM AREA IN KIEN GIANG, THEN NORTHEAST TO CACHE SITES IN THE SEVEN MOUNTAINS.

C. KIEN GIANG PROVINCE: EIGHT VILLAGE HEADQUARTERS SUFFERED GROUND ATTACKS; FOUR OF THESE WERE OVERRUN. THIS BRINGS TO SIX--BAN TAN DINH, THANH HUNG, PHI THONG, DONG THAI, DONG HOA, AND DONG THANH--THE NUMBER OF VILLAGE HEADQUARTERS OVERRUN SINCE JULY 14. RF TROOPS AND ELEMENTS OF THE 33RD REGIMENT RETOOK BAN TAN DINH VILLAGE HEADQUARTERS, BUT THE VC/NVA OCCUPYING FORCE ESCAPED INTO KIEN TAN DISTRICT AND SEIZED A POPULATED SECTION OF CANAL 8. ALL THREE VILLAGE HEADQUARTERS ON THE CAN GAO CANAL BETWEEN KIEN AN AND HIEU LE DISTRICT TOWNS WERE OVERRUN DURING THE WEEK. THE 530 RF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS WAS OVERRUN ON JULY 17 AND 89 RF ARE STILL LISTED AS MIA. FIGHTING IN THE PROVINCE HAS BEEN SO INTENSE THAT EXACT CASUALTIES ARE UNKNOWN. MANY TROOPS THAT ABANDONED OB'S FLED TO OTHER OB'S THAT WERE SUBSEQUENTLY ABANDONED OR OVERRUN.

D. CENTRAL DELTA: KIEN HOA PROVINCE REPORTS THE LOWEST LEVEL OF ACTIVITY SINCE LAST SEPTEMBER. THERE WERE THREE ABF'S, HOWEVER, INVOLVING TEN TO FIFTEEN ROUNDS OF 61MM MORTAR FIRED INTO THOI THUAN VILLAGE OFFICE IN BINH DAI (D) AND TWO OUTPOSTS IN GIONG TROM (D). IN VINH BINH PROVINCE, THERE WERE NO GROUND ATTACKS, BUT THREE OUTPOSTS IN CAU KE AND CAU NGAN DISTRICTS WERE ABANDONED AFTER DEFENDERS SUSTAINED LIGHT CASUALTIES FROM VC/NVA SHELLINGS. IN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT GROUND CONTACT, THE 404 RF BATTALION KILLED 38 VC WHILE SUFFERING 6 WOUNDED IN TAM NGAI (V), CAU KE (D). IN VINH LONG PROVINCE, A COMPANY

OF THE 521 RF BATTALION SUFFERED 19 KIA (INCLUDING THE COMPANY COMMANDER), 15 MIA AND 1 WIA IN A GROUND CONTACT IN MY LOC (V), TAM BINH (D). WITH AIR AND ARTILLERY SUPPORT, GVN FORCES KILLED AN ESTIMATED 10 VC/NVA IN THE CONTACT. THERE WERE TWO ABFS AGAINST NGA HAU OB IN VUNG LIEM (D), ONE OF THE FEW REMAINING OUTPOSTS ON THE VINH BINH BORDER, BUT THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES. CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTIVITY IN SA DEC PROVINCE INCREASED, BUT WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS. IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE, THE THANH AN VILLAGE OFFICE, CHAU THANH (D) WAS OVERRUN EARLY THE MORNING OF JULY 16. GVN CASUALTIES ARE REPORTED AS 20 KIA (INCLUDING SUB-SUBSECTOR COMMANDER), 16 WIA AND 3 MIA. GVN FORCES RETOOK THE HEAD-QUARTERS WHICH IS ONLY EIGHT KILOMETERS FROM CAN THO, BUT WERE MORTARED THE NIGHT OF JULY 19. CHAU THANH A HAMLET OFFICE IN PHUNG HIEP (V), PHUNG HIEP (D) RECEIVED SIX ROUNDS OF 61MM CAUSING TWO PSDF KILLED AND FIVE CIVILIANS WOUNDED.

E. SOUTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE INCREASED GREATLY, ESPECIALLY IN THE WESTERN TWO-THIRDS OF THE PROVINCE. SECTOR BELIEVES ALL THREE BATTALIONS OF 95A NVA SAPPER REGIMENT ARE NOW IN BA XUYEN. VC/NVA TACTICS CONSISTED OF REPEATED ATTACKS ON A FEW TARGETS. TWO OUTPOSTS WERE OVERRUN AND FOUR OTHERS WERE ABANDONED UNDER PRESSURE. THE VC PHU LOI 3 BATTALION CONDUCTED AN ABF AND GROUND ATTACK ON THE REAR BASE OF 482 RF BATTALION IN DAI NGAI (V), LONG PHU (D). BASE WAS DEFENDED BY 30 RF. RESULTS WERE 9 RF KIA, 3 WIA, ONE MIA AND 60 INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS LOST. VC/NVA CASUALTIES UNKNOWN. IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE, SHARPLY HIGHER ABFS AND HARASSMENTS ACCOUNTED FOR MOST OF THE INCREASE IN VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS. THE ONLY GROUND ATTACK WAS DIRECTED AGAINST A PSDF POSITION ON HIGHWAY 4 EIGHT KILOMETERS WEST OF BAC LIEU CITY. TWO CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED INCLUDING A HAMLET CHIEF. GVN OPERATIONS AND AIR STRIKES ALSO INCREASED. TWO AIR STRIKES IN VINH QUOI (V), NGA NAM (D) AND VINH HUNG (V), VINH LOI (D), BOTH BASED ON HARD INTELLIGENCE, REPORTEDLY KILLED 34 VC/NVA. SECTOR S-2 AND POLICE REPORT THAT FOUR-MAN SAPPER CELLS HAVE BEEN SENT INTO BAC LIEU CITY FOR ASSASSINATIONS, SABOTAGE AND PROPAGANDA. CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE REMAINED ACTIVE. A GROUND ATTACK ON THE CA KHUE OB IN HOA AN (V), DUC LONG (D) RESULTED IN FIVE RF KIA, INCLUDING THE 406 RF BATTALION COMMANDER, AND NINE VC/NVA KIA. SECTOR FORCES CONTACTED A VC SAPPER COMPANY NEAR THE VI THANH AIRFIELD AND CAPTURED THE COMPANY COMMANDER, A VC 2ND LIEUTENANT. IN AN XUYEN PROVINCE, NEARLY ALL VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS WERE ABF, WITH NO GROUND ATTACKS. VC/NVA CONSTRUCTED A BARRICADE ON THE CA MAU-DAM DOI CANAL SEVEN KILOMETERS NORTH-NORTHWEST OF DAM DOI DISTRICT TOWN AND SUBSEQUENTLY FORCED PF TROOPS TO ABANDON A NEARBY OUTPOST. A BATTALION-SIZE RF/PF SWEEP LATER REOPENED THE CANAL. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. GVN AFFAIRS: ORGANIZED MEMORIAL RALLIES WERE HELD IN PROVINCE CAPITALS ON THE DAY OF THE FUNERAL OF BUU PHUNG WHO IMMOLATED HIMSELF IN SAIGON. POSTERS DESCRIBING THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING HIS DEATH HAVE ALSO BEEN PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED AND LOCAL TELEVISION COVERAGE WAS EXTENSIVE.

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
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PART V -- MR-2

1. SITUATION SUMMARY: THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INCIDENTS BRIEFED IN MR-2 INCREASED AGAIN THIS WEEK (156 VERSUS 138 LAST WEEK), AS DID INTENSITY OF MILITARY ACTIVITY WITH HIGH CASUALTIES ON BOTH SIDES REFLECTING THE FIERCE FIGHTING. FRIENDLY AIR STRIKES INCREASED ALMOST 40 PERCENT, UP TO 187 AS OPPOSED TO 131 REPORTED A WEEK AGO. KONTUM HAD BY FAR THE MOST (115), FOLLOWED BY BINH DINH (36), AND PHU YEN AND PLEIKU (18 EACH). BINH DINH HAD THE LARGEST NUMBER OF INCIDENTS BRIEFED (48), BUT MUCH HEAVIER FIGHTING OCCURRED IN KONTUM (26) AND PLEIKU (21). THE INCIDENT LEVEL MARKEDLY INCREASED IN PHU YEN (40) AND DOUBLED IN KHANH HOA TO EIGHT; NHA TRANG CAME UNDER ROCKET ATTACK TWICE. CASUALTY FIGURES REPORTED BY II CORPS HQS IN NHA TRANG ARE: GVN - 105 KIA, 293 WIA, AND 9 MIA; COMMUNIST- 286 KIA. ONE FEATURE OF THE ENEMY ACTIVITY THAT WILL BEAR WATCHING RELATES TO THE HIGH INCIDENCE OF ATTACKS AGAINST LOC, PARTICULARLY IN PHU YEN, BINH DINH AND PLEIKU.

2. PHU YEN: THE LEVEL OF MILITARY ACTIVITY INCREASED MARKEDLY THIS WEEK, IN WHAT IS JUDGED TO BE AN EFFORT TO COUNTER THE SUCCESSFUL GVN SWEEP THROUGH BASE AREA 236 OF A WEEK AGO. COMMUNIST ACTIVITY FOCUSED ON EFFORTS TO INTERDICT QL-1 AND HARASSMENT OF POPULATION CENTERS, PARTICULARLY IN THE DON XUAN AREA. IN THE EARLY MORNING OF JULY 19 THE ENEMY LAUNCHED SIMULTANEOUS ATTACKS AGAINST FRIENDLY UNITS IN DONG XUAN AND TUY AN DISTRICTS AND SELECTED TARGETS ON QL-1 IN TUY HOA AND SONG CAU DISTRICTS. ON JULY 20, TUY HOA CITY WAS HIT BY MORTAR FIRE, WITH TEN 82MM ROUNDS TARGETED ON NATIONAL POLICE HQS. AT THE SAME TIME THE NGAN SON BRIDGE IN NORTHERN TUY AN DISTRICT WAS ATTACKED BY SAPPERS; 57 METERS OF BAILEY BRIDGE WERE KNOCKED OUT, SEVERING QL-1. ON JULY 19 PF SOLDIERS FOUND 8 BLOCKS OF TNT, BLASTING CAPS, A FLOAT DEVICE AND A DEAD ENEMY SOLDIER UNDERNEATH THE BAN THACH BRIDGE IN SOUTHERN HIEN XUONG DISTRICT. THE APPARENT ENEMY AIM

WAS TO SEVER QL-1 AT THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN ENDS OF THE PROVINCE. ADDITIONALLY, TWO OTHER BRIDGES ON QL-1 WERE DAMAGED THIS WEEK BY THE ENEMY.

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3. KONTUM THE ENEMY MANAGED TO PLACE EFFECTIVE IN DIRECT FIRE ON ALMOST EVERY ARVN INFANTRY AND ARTILLERY UNIT. THOUSANDS OF ROUNDS OF VARIOUS CALIBER, INCLUDING 85MM, WERE UTILIZED. WHILE FRIENDLY FORCES WERE PINNED DOWN UNDER THE BARRAGE, THE ENEMY MOVED LARGE UNITS AROUND OP-4 AND OP-5 AND ATTACKED THEM. OP-4 WAS OVERRUN AND THE BATTLE FOR OP-5 STILL SEESAWS. CASUALTIES ON BOTH SIDES HAVE BEEN HEAVY. BG TUONG, COMMANDER OF THE 23RD DIV HAS INSERTED A NUMBER OF LRRP TEAMS INTO THE AREA TO TAKE PRESSURE OFF FRIENDLY FORCES AND HAS BROUGHT HIS 45TH REGT FROM BAN ME THUOT.

4. KHANH HOA/CAM RANH: ENEMY INITIATED INCIDENTS MARKEDLY INCREASED THIS WEEK, FOLLOWING ATTACKS IN NHA TRANG HARBOR AND ON THE AIRFIELD THE WEEK BEFORE. CAM RANH PENINSULA RECEIVED THREE SEPARATE VC ATTACKS ON JULY 22, INVOLVING THE NAVAL NCO ACADEMY, THE A-351 MAINTENANCE SHOP AND THE 55TH AMMO GROUP. THE 4000 TONS OF AMMO REPORTEDLY AT THE LATTER WAS UNTOUCHED, BUT THE THREE INCIDENTS RESULTED IN 13 VEHICLES DESTROYED, ONE NAVAL NCO KILLED AND 23 WOUNDED. NHA TRANG WAS ROCKETED TWICE JULY 22. NINE 122MM ROCKETS HIT ON OR NEAR THE AIRFIELD IN THE EARLY MORNING AND ONE HIT CLOSE TO GEN. TOAN'S HOUSE IN THE EARLY AFTERNOON. THERE WERE ALSO FIVE INCIDENTS IN THE PROVINCE ON OR NEAR QL-1; ONE INVOLVING FOURTEEN 82MM MORTAR ROUNDS LAUNCHED AT THE CAN NGOI BRIDGE (BP 969748). IT IS NOT CLEAR IF THIS SPATE OF INCIDENTS IS PART OF AN INTEGRATED EFFORT AGAINST QL-1 (SEE PHU YEN AND BINH DINH SECTIONS).

5. PLEIKU: ENEMY ACTIVITY INCREASED THIS WEEK WITH SEVERAL INCIDENTS TAKING PLACE ALONG HIGHWAYS 19 AND 14. IN ADDITION BRIDGE 33 WAS SHELLLED HEAVILY JULY 16, SUFFERING TWO DIRECT HITS. THE 23RD RANGER GP HQ AND THE 240TH RF BN HQ WEST OF PLEIKU CITY CAME UNDER HEAVY SHELLING ATTACK. IN THE FORMER CASE, THE RANGERS WITHDREW UNDER THE HEAVY MORTAR FIRE, BUT LATER REOCCUPIED THEIR SITE AT FB 333.

6. BINH DINH: THE LEVEL OF ENEMY ACTIVITY WAS APPROXIMATELY THE SAME AS LAST WEEK. TAM QUAN DISTRICT HAD THE LARGEST NUMBER OF INCIDENTS BUT ENEMY CONTACTS THERE WERE LIGHT. PHU MY DISTRICT WAS THE SCENE OF HEAVIER FIGHTING AND MORE CASUALTIES FROM FEWER CONTACTS. IT IS REPORTED THAT ENEMY FORCES ARE BUILDING UP

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IN THE MOUNTAINS WEST OF PHU MY TOWN, WITH THE EXPECTATION THAT PHU MY DISTRICT WILL BE THE SCENE OF MORE HEAVY FIGHTING ONCE THE ENEMY STARTS PHASE TWO OF THE SUMMER CAMPAIGN. PHU CAT DISTRICT HAD A LOW NUMBER OF SMALL UNIT AMBUSHES, WITH LIGHT LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES. IN THE EARLY MORNING JULY 20, THE TAN AN BRIDGE, 2 KM SOUTHEAST OF AN NHON, WAS DESTROYED BY SAPPERS. BY THAT EVENING A BY-PASS WAS COMPLETED AND TRAFFIC RESUMED, BUT BRIDGE REPAIRS WILL TAKE SEVERAL DAYS.

7. DARLAC: THE 45TH REGT CLOSED OUT ITS OPERATION INTO BASE AREA 238 ON JULY 17. ELEMENTS OF THE REGT ADVANCED FROM THE SOUTH AND EAST AS FAR AS AQ 848278 AND AQ 882308. THE OPERATION YIELDED 92 ENEMY KIA, 39 WEAPONS CAPTURED AND ABOUT 30 HECTARES OF CROPS DESTROYED. FRIENDLY LOSSES WERE: 15 KIA, 38 WIA AND 29 MIA. SECTOR FORCES WERE ON FULL ALERT OVER THE WEEKEND MONITORING TRAFFIC INTO BAN ME THUOT, AS WERE PSDF UNITS IN SURROUNDING HAMLETS, IN ANTICIPATION OF POSSIBLE ENEMY ACTION JULY 20. LOC'S REMAIN OPEN WITHIN THE PROVINCE, ALTHOUGH AMBUSHES ON QL-14 (INCLUDING PLEIKU AND QUANG DUC PROVINCES ALSO) HAVE AFFECTED TRAFFIC. ENEMY DITCHES DUG IN THE PASS AREA ABOUT HALFWAY BETWEEN LAC THIEN AND AN LOC HAVE CLOSED THAT ROAD.

8. OTHER AREAS:

A. BINH THUAN: HOSTILE FIRE ACTIVITY SLACKED OFF AGAIN THIS WEEK, DESPITE EARLIER PREDICTIONS. THERE WERE, HOWEVER, A NUMBER OF KIDNAPPINGS BY THE ENEMY INVOLVING APPROXIMATELY 45 PEOPLE. MOST OF THEM WERE ONLY HELD FOR SEVERAL HOURS, SHOWN PROPAGANDA FILMS AND WARNED NOT TO VOTE IN THE PROVINCE COUNCIL ELECTION. A JULY 19 ATTACK ON THE SECURITY FORCES FOR THE AGRICULTURAL AREA WEST OF THE PHAN THIET AIRFIELD, IN WHICH GVN SUFFERED 0 WIA AND A BULLDOZER AND OBSERVATION TOWER DESTROYED, CAUSED APPREHENSION AMONG THE BINH TU RESETTLERS.

B. NINH THUAN: INTERNAL SECURITY REMAINED GOOD AND TRAFFIC CIRCULATION ON PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROADS WAS NORMAL. THERE WERE ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF COMMUNIST-INITIATED HOSTILE FIRE INCIDENTS, BUT 12 REPORTED SIGHTINGS OF COMMUNIST SQUAD-SIZED UNITS WHICH, IT WAS CLAIMED, WERE ENGAGED IN PROPAGANDA ACTIVITY.

9. ICCS: THE POLISH DELEGATION NOW HAS REPRESENTATIVE AT MOST
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SITES WITHIN MR-2, INCLUDING LAM DONG, NINH THUAN, BINH THUAN
AND PLEIKU.

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 DPW-01 AID-20 IO-14

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SR-02 ORM-03

DRC-01 /170 W

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R 240954Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7109

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 4 OF 5 SAIGON 9750

PART VI -- MR-3

1. AN UNEASY LULL CONTINUED IN MR 3 AS ARVN FORCES REFITTED AND REBUILT PERSONNEL STRENGTH AFTER THE BEN CAT HIGH POINT, PREPARING FOR THE NEXT COMMUNIST PUSH, WHICH COMMANDERS BELIEVE TO BE NEAR AT HAND. THERE WAS AN ABSENCE OF LARGE UNIT CLASHES AND MOST MILITARY INCIDENTS WERE CONCENTRATED IN THE BATTLE-TORN AREA OF BEN CAT DISTRICT, WHERE DUG-IN NVA CONTINUED TO EXCHANGE MORTAR AND ARTILLERY FIRE WITH OPPOSING ARVN UNITS. IN LONG KHANH PROVINCE COMMUNIST FORCES PERSISTED IN THEIR HARASSMENT OF ARVN DEFENDERS IN THE VICINITY OF THE RUNG LA RESETTLEMENT SITE AND IN THE BAO BINH AREA OF SOUTHERN LONG KHANH.

2. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MILITARY INCIDENTS REPORTED BY MR 3 HQ THIS WEEK WAS 208, A SLIGHT REDUCTION COMPARED WITH LAST WEEK'S 229. MR 3 HQ RECORDED 28 GROUND ATTACKS, 92 ATTACKS BY FIRE, AND 14 COMBINED GROUND AND ABF'S. THERE WERE 40 MINING INCIDENTS AND 34 MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENTS INCLUDING 23 SMALL ARMS HARASSMENTS. BINH DUONG PROVINCE AGAIN LED THE REGION WITH 76 INCIDENTS FOLLOWED BY LONG KHANH WITH 28 AND PHUOC TUY WITH 18.

3. COMMUNIST GUNNERS REPORTEDLY FIRED 1,734 ROUNDS OF MORTAR AND ARTILLERY COMPARED WITH 1,862 LAST WEEK. RVNAF ARTILLERY FIRINGS INCREASED SLIGHTLY TO 26,988 ROUNDS EXPENDED COMPARED WITH 21,988 FIRED DURING THE PREVIOUS WEEK. VNAF FLEW 219 FIXED WING SORTIES AND 256 HELICOPTER GUNSHIP SORTIES DURING THE WEEK CLAIMING 168 NVA/VC KILLED AND 25 SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS. AN L19 OBSERVATION PLANE DEVELOPED ENGINE TROUBLE DURING A MISSION AND CRASH-LANDED IN THE LONG BINH AREA CAUSING NO CASUALTIES BUT ALMOST TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF THE AIRCRAFT.

4. REPORTED CASUALTIES REMAINED IN LAST WEEK'S RANGE WITH ARVN LOSSES SET AT 55 KIA, 271 WIA, AND 17 MISSING COMPARED WITH LAST WEEK'S 57 KIA, 258 WIA, AND 40 MIA. COMMUNIST FORCES REPORTEDLY SUFFERED 56 KILLED AND 7 RALLIERS TO THE GVN SIDE COMPARED WITH 45 KIA, 3 CIA AND 8 RALLIERS LAST WEEK. FOUR RVNAF MEMBERS ESCAPED COMMUNIST CAPTIVITY AND RETURNED TO GVN UNITS.

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5. RANGER UNITS DEFENDING GVN RESETTLEMENT SITES ALONG ROUTE 1 IN LONG KHANH WITHSTOOD ALMOST DAILY NVA/VC MORTARINGS BUT SUFFERED ONLY ONE MAN WOUNDED. COMMUNIST FORCES CONTINUED THEIR HARASSMENTS

OF GVN ROADS IN LONG KHANH PLACING ONE OBSTRUCTION ON ROUTE 1 NEAR RUNG LA AND TWO OTHERS ON TWO SECONDARY ROADS IN THE XUAN LOC DISTRICT, BUT ALL THREE OBSTRUCTIONS WERE REMOVED THE SAME DAY AFTER CAREFUL PROBING BY RVNAF FORCES.

6. IN BINH LONG PROVINCE TWO RF COMPANIES CLASHED WITH A BN OF THE NVA 201ST INDEPENDENT INF REGT, 7 KMS SOUTH OF AN LOC. RF FORCES SUFFERED ONE MAN KILLED AND 36 WOUNDED WITH 5 NVA KIA. SEVERAL HOURS LATER ANOTHER RF BN ENCOUNTERED A COMMUNIST FORCE 1 KM FARTHER TO THE SOUTH RESULTING IN ONE RF KILLED AND 25 WOUNDED WITH UNKNOWN COMMUNIST LOSSES.

7. ASSASSINATIONS APPEARED ON THE UPSWING THROUGHOUT THE REGION. COMMUNIST AGENTS ENTERED THE HOME OF THE MY XUAN DEPUTY HAMLET CHIEF IN PHUOC TUY MURDERING HIM AND WOUNDED ANOTHER CIVILIAN. IN GIA DINH THREE COMMUNISTS PENETRATED INTO THE BINH THOI POST KILLING ONE POLICEMAN AND WOUNDING A SOLDIER. IN LONG AN PROVINCE COMMUNISTS ATTACKED THE PHUOC VINH TAY VILLAGE OFFICE AND KILLED A DEPUTY HAMLET CHIEF. ANOTHER COMMUNIST GROUP IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE ATTACKED THE THOI HOA SUB-SUBSECTOR AND KILLED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE VILLAGE COMMITTEE, A SECRETARY AND AN RD CADRE AND WOUNDED THE VILLAGE CHIEF, THE POLICE CHIEF, TWO RD CADRE AND TWO PSDF. TWO COMMUNISTS WERE KILLED IN THE ATTACK.

8. ICCS: DURING THE COURSE OF POLISH NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION AT ICCS REGION V HQ (BIEN HOA) JULY 22, POLDEL MENTIONED THAT POLISH DELEGATES WOULD RETURN TO SUB-REGIONAL TEAM SITES AT VUNG TAU, XUAN LOC AND TAN AN JULY 23, HAVING JUST COMPLETED THEIR PERSONNEL ROTATION. INDODEL REPORTED THAT ONLY ONE "OBSERVATION" WAS MADE DURING THE WEEK. INDODEL AND IRANDEL, ON JULY 22, VISITED A VUNG TAU SHIPYARD WHERE A COASTAL PATROL BOAT WAS MINED ON JULY 21; THE INCIDENT OCCURRED SOME 400 METERS FROM THE ICCS VUNG TAU TEAM SITE.

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 DPW-01 AID-20 IO-14

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SR-02 ORM-03

DRC-01 /170 W

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R 240954Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7110
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMCONSUL CAN THO
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL JEC PARIS UNN
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
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PART VII -- MR-4

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

ACCORDING TO I CORPS HQS THERE WERE 205 COMMUNIST CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS LAST WEEK. THIS IS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS REGISTERED IN I CORPS IN 1974 AND IS A REFLECTION PARTICULARLY OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS IN QUANG NGAI AND THE FIERCE FIGHTING IN QUANG NAM. DA NANAG AIRBASE WAS ROCKETED FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE CEASEFIRE. GVN CASUALTY FIGURES ARE THE HIGHEST SO FAR IN 1974: 128 KIA, 494 WIA. THE FOLLOWING NVA/VC LOSSES INCLUDE ESTIMATED LOSSES FROM VNAF AIR STRIKES:

189 KIA, 3 RETURNEES.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

ALTHOUGH THERE WAS SOME FIGHTING IN THE TWO NORTHERN PROVINCES, LITTLE OF IT WAS SIGNIFICANT. THERE WERE TWO SHELLINGS OF MARINE POSITIONS ALONG THE CONTACT LINE IN QUANG TRI. IN THUA THIEN ONE FIVE-MAN RF STRONGPOINT WAS LOST AND ON JULY 19 THE DA NANG-HUE TRAIN WAS MINED BUT TRAFFIC WAS RESTORED ON JULY 22.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

IN QUANG NAM THE ENEMY WAS MORE ACTIVE DURING THE WEEK THAN DURING ANY OTHER SINGLE WEEK SINCE THE CEASEFIRE. HIS STRONGEST ATTACK OCCURRED IN SOUTHERN DUC DUC DISTRICT WHERE ON JULY 17 A COMMUNIST FORCE BELIEVED TO BE THE NVA 38TH REGT SUPPORTED BY THE 571ST ROCKET BN ATTACKED THE 78TH RANGER BN AND THE 3RD BN OF THE 56TH REGT OF THE 3RD ARVN DIVISION. AT THE TIME OF THE ATTACK THE RANGER BN WAS PREPARING TO RELINQUISH TACTICAL AREA RESPONSIBILITY TO THE 3RD BN. SHORTLY AFTER THE ATTACK BEGAN, THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE RANGER BN WAS KILLED AND THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE 3RD BN. ASSUMED COMMAND. BY THE END OF THE DAY CONTACT WAS BROKEN AND THE SCATTERED UNITS WERE REPORTED TO BE ATTEMPTING TO WITHDRAW TO FRIENDLY LINES. MORE THAN 300 MEN REMAIN MISSING IN ACTION. ON JULY 18 A COUNTER-ATTACK, QUANG TRUNG 4/74, INVOLVING THE 2ND REGT OF THE 3RD INFO. DIVISION, WAS LAUNCHED. THE 2ND REGT. REPORTS OVER 30 KIA, CONFIDENTIAL

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MOSTLY TO ATTACKS BY FIRE. VNAF HAS FLOWN DAILY TACTICAL AIRSTRIKES BEGINNING ON JULY 18. DUC DUC DISTRICT TOWN WAS REPEATEDLY SHELLED DURING THE WEEK. THIRTY CIVILIANS ARE REPORTED KILLED AND 20 WOUNDED. 400 HOUSES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED AND 50 DAMAGED. THE FIGHTING IS CONTINUING IN THIS AREA. ON JULY 19 THE 12TH RANGER GROUP WAS BROUGHT UP FROM QUANG NGAI TO PROVIDE A RESERVE ELEMENT FOR THE 3RD DIVISION.

4. THE NUMBER AND GRAVITY OF THE INCIDENTS ELSEWHERE IN THE PROVINCE ARE NOTABLE. EARLY ON JULY 19, 35 ROUNDS OF 122 MM ROCKETS HIT IN AND NEAR THE DA NANG AIRBASE. SIXTEEN WERE KILLED AND 73 WOUNDED. AN ICCS HELICOPTER, AND 10 HOUSES WERE DESTROYED. CONSIDERABLE FUEL WAS BURNED. ON JULY 22 A NATIONALIS CHINESE-OWNED PANAMANIAN-REGISTERED FREIGHTER, THE "EVERGOOD", SANK IN DA NANG HARBOR FOLLOWING AN EXPLOSION. NO ONE WAS KILLED OR INJURED. ON THE SAME DAY A PASSENGER BUS GOING FROM DUC DUC TO DA NANG HIT A MINE. FIVE WERE KILLED AND 34 WOUNDED. ON JULY 19 GVN FORCES IN EASTERN HIEU DUC DISTRICT CLAIMED TO HAVE KILLED 30 COMMUNISTS AT A COST OF ONLY 3 WOUNDED.

5. IN QUANG TIN MILITARY DECLINED TO ITS LOWEST LEVEL SINCE MID-APRIL. SECTOR REPORTED ONLY SCATTERED ATTACKS BY FIRE AND SMALL

GVN CONTACTS WITH LOCAL ENEMY FORCES. MINES HAVE CAUSED RELATIVELY HEAVY CASUALTIES AMONG CIVILIANS RETURNING TO KY AN AND PHUOC LONG VILLAGES OF NORTHERN TAM KY DISTRICT. THESE AREAS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT UNDER AT LEAST TEMPORARY GVN CONTROL BY THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED OPERATION QUANG TRUNG 3/74 OF THE ARVN 3RD INF. DIVISION. THE BA BAU BRIDGE ON Q.L. 1 WHICH WAS DAMAGED BY MINES ON JULY 18 WAS OPENED TO TRAFFIC THE FOLLOWING DAY. FOUR 122MM ROCKETS LANDING IN OR NEAR TAM KY CITY KILLED 2 AND WOUNDED 11 CIVILIANS.

6. IN QUANG NGAI COMMUNIST ACTIVITY WAS THE HIGHEST IN THE LAST 3 MONTHS AND WAS DIRECTED ALMOST ENTIRELY AGAINST TERRITORIAL FORCE UNITS. IN SON TINH DISTRICT AN RF COMPANY WAS OVERRUN. IN TU NGHIA DISTRICT AT TU MY VILLAGE A PLATOON-SIZE RF POSITION WAS LOST AND 200 REFUGEE HOMES WERE BURNED, AND TWO OTHER VILLAGES OFFICES WERE SHELLED. IN BINH SON DISTRICT SUSTAINED ATTACKS WERE LAUNCHED AGAINST RF AND PF ELEMENTS AND AN ARVN RESUPPLY HELICOPTER WAS SHOT DOWN. IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE PROVINCE THE BATTLE-WEARY 6TH REGIMENT, 2ND DIVISION, HAS REPLACED THE TWO BATTALIONS OF THE 12TH RANGER GROUP SENT NORTH TO ACT AS RESERVE FOR THE 3RD
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DIVISION. RECENT GVN PACIFICATION EFFORTS IN MO DUC AND DUC PHO DISTRICTS IN THIS AREA ARE NOW BEING THREATENED BY THE ENEMY WHICH ATTACKED SEVERAL POSITIONS THERE DURING THE WEEK.

7. ICCS:

NO OBSERVATIONS WERE CARRIED OUT IN REGION I. IN REGION II THE INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS VISITED 8 INCIDENTS SITES. THE INDONESIANS CONDUCTED TWO MORE OBSRVATIONS ON THEIR OWN AND THE IRANIANS CONDUCTED ONE. ON JULY 22 THE POLISH CHAIRMAN OF ICCS REGION II, TOGETHER WITH THE THREE OTHER HEADS OF DELEGATION, MET WITH A GROUP OF DA NANG CITIZENS TO RECEIVE A LETTER PROTESTING THE ENEMY ROCKETING OF DA NANG AIRBASE.

8. A NEW GROUP OF POLES TO FILL VACANT SLOTS AT SUB-REGION SITES IN REGION II ARRIVED DURING THE WEEK.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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